

## REMARKS

This is in response to the first Office Action of July 8, 2004, (Paper No. 7). By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 20, including intermediate claims 13 and 19. Claims 21, 22, 23, and 25 have been placed in independent form. Claims 13, 19, 20, and 28 have been cancelled (claim 29 was previously cancelled). Thus, claims 1-12, 14-18, and 21-27 remain in the application for further examination, with claims 21, 22, 23 and 25 being in independent form.

Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications directed to any subject matter not claimed herein, including subject matter covered by cancelled claims.

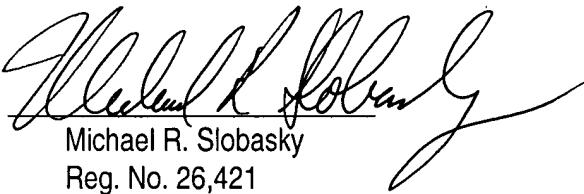
Filed separately herewith is a Petition for a one-month extension of time, along with the requisite fee. The payment also includes the cost for filing one additional independent claim in excess of three. Should the fees for the extension and additional claim be in error, the Office is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account No. 06-1358.

In the first Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 20-23, 25, and 26 would be allowed if rewritten so as not to be dependent upon rejected base claims. Accordingly, independent claim 1 now corresponds to claim 20 and is in condition for allowance. Claims 21, 22, 23, and 25 have also been placed in independent form and each of these claims are also in condition for allowance. All of the remaining claims are dependent upon such allowable claims and, thus, all remaining claims should now be allowable.

Should the Examiner have any questions after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys so that this application can receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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